

REMARKS

Claims 1-12 were pending in the subject application and were addressed in the Office Action.

The Office Action presents an objection to claim 12 as being duplicative of claim 11. In response, claim 12 has been canceled.

Claims 1 - 12 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. §112, the Examiner asserting that claim 1 is indefinite because the term "said apparatus" in line 11 allegedly lacks antecedent basis, and because the claim reads on two alternative embodiments. In addition, claim 2 and claim 9 are allegedly unclear.

Claims 1, 2 and 9 have all been amended to address the stated rejections.

The Office Action states in Section 6 that claims 4 – 6 would be allowable if rewritten in independent form. Claim 1 has re-written accordingly, to incorporate the language of claim 4.

Claims 1 – 3 and 7 - 12 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103. However, this rejection has been rendered moot by the amendments entered herewith.

Each stated objection and ground of rejection has been addressed or traversed, and since the claims are now drawn to admittedly allowable subject matter, the prompt issuance of a Notice of Allowance is now respectfully requested.

Applicant believes that no fees are due with the submission of this Amendment and Reply. However, if a fee is due, Applicant authorizes the payment of any additional charges that may be necessary to maintain the pendency of the present application to the undersigned attorney's Deposit Account No. 503342.

Respectfully submitted,

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